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FERMILAB



The Tevatron at Fermilab was, until this year, the world's premier particle collider. With the startup of the higher-energy Large Hadron Collider at CERN, the Tevatron was scheduled to be shut off at the end of 2011. But now an expert panel recommends that the Fermilab collider's life be extended by three years.

"In the long run, the LHC is clearly the machine to do Higgs physics," says the report. But it is scheduled to shut down at the end of 2011 for 15 months to prepare for operation at 14 TeV, and then it's unlikely to start accumulating data at its design rate before 2013.

"We don't see this as a horse race," says Baltay. His presentation stressed the "complementarity" of the two colliders. Their searches contend with very different backgrounds and therefore rely on different Higgs decay modes. If both machines reveal something that might be the Higgs boson predicted by the standard model of particle physics, data for different decay modes from different beam particles colliding at dif-

ferent energies should make it easier to detect much-sought-after departures from the standard model.

Some particle physicists worry that the subpanel's strong affirmation of the extension might result in an unfunded mandate. And concern was expressed at the meeting that even if the requisite \$35 million is forthcoming for the first year of the extension, it might be withheld in subsequent years. Still, after Baltay's presentation, the HEPAP members present voted, with just one dissenting voice, to accept the P5 report. "Now," says HEPAP chairman Melvyn Shochet (University of Chicago), "it's up to the funding agencies."

Bertram Schwarzschild ■

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Physics Today's news reporter and books editor, Jerney Matthews, took his two young daughters to the inaugural USA Science and Engineering Festival, which was held in Washington, DC, in October. Matthews describes the experience and the thoughts it evoked about encouraging children's interest in science.



► Singularities



This year's Industrial Physics Forum took place in Rochester, New York, at a joint meeting of the American Physical Society and the Optical Society of America. The seven reports filed from the forum covered new and diverse applications of the laser, the device whose 50th anniversary provided the forum's theme.

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In his blog *The Dayside*, Charles Day writes about ethics in biophysics, using science to solve household conundrums, nuclear disarmament, superchiral light, and a universal robot gripper.

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